

HARPOLE BRIDGE

(Manning Bridge)

(Curtis Lowe Bridge)

Spanning the Palouse River, approximately 1 mile
from the intersection of County Route 4400 and

County Route 4370

Colfax vicinity

Whitman County

Washington

HAER No. WA-133

HAER
WASH
38-COLF.V
1-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

PHOTOGRAPHS

XEROGRAPHIC COPIES OF COLOR TRANSPARENCIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
P.O. BOX 37127
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HARPOLE BRIDGE
(Manning Bridge)
(Curtis Lowe Bridge)

HAER
WASH
38-COLF.V
1-

HAER No. WA-133

Location: Spanning the Palouse River, Colfax vicinity, Whitman County, Washington, approximately one mile down Dry Creek from the intersection of County Route 4400 and County Route 4370.

UTM: 11/468490/5197020
11/468480/5197150

QUAD: Diamond, Wash.

Date of Construction: 1922/1928

Owner: Originally Great Northern Railway, now owned by Mrs. Ruth Lowe.

Present Use: Vehicular and pedestrian traffic

Significance: A rare example of a wooden boxed-in Howe Truss bridge. The Great Northern Railway acquired the Spokane & Inland Empire Railway and had the bridge built according to a general plan (Great Northern Railway Plan No. 115-1562). The plan specified a 150' span, and three additional bridges of the same type were constructed along the line, which was a 37 mile branch line from Spring Valley, Washington, to Colfax, Washington. Previously used as an electric interurban railway by the Spokane & Inland Empire Railway, this spur line was upgraded to a steam line for freight use, hence the need for the heavy-timbered bridges. The Harpole Bridge is the only extant structure of its type in the State of Washington, and perhaps one of few remaining in the country.

Historian: Brian T. Berkley, October 1995